



**For Immediate Release
May 19, 2006**

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**STATE ANNOUNCES OFF-ROAD VEHICLE TRAILS IN STATE FORESTS
CLOSED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE**

The Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) today announced that designated trails for off-road vehicle (ORV) use in Beartown State Forest, October Mountain State Forest, Pittsfield State Forest, Tolland State Forest, F. Gilbert Hills State Forest, Freetown-Fall River State Forest and Georgetown-Rowley State Forest will be closed until further notice.

The closures are necessary due to the extremely wet trail conditions caused by the excessive amounts of rainfall recently experienced in the Commonwealth: riding an ORV on wet trails can cause significant trail damage. The trails will be reopened when conditions improve.

All other state forests, parks and reservations are closed to ORV use at all times. Off-road vehicle use is defined as any motor vehicle designed for recreational use off a public way, legally registered, and weighing under 1000 lbs. For registration information, visit www.mass.gov/dfwele/dle/elereg.htm.

For more information on ORV riding areas in state forests, maps, directions and contact information, please visit www.mass.gov/dcr/forparks.htm.

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